

Lincoln Memorial Boulder





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COMPLIMENTS OF

CHARLES M. MONTGOMERY,

Patriotic Instructor Waldron Post, G. A. R.

NYACK, N. Y.



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SOUVENIR

...OF THE...

Lincoln Memorial Boulder

LIBRARY GROUNDS, NYACK, N. Y.



DEDICATED FLAG DAY

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHT

The Lincoln Memorial Boulder

— Souvenir —

NYACK, N. Y., September, 1908.

THIS little pamphlet has been prepared and printed by the Boulder Memorial Committee from a fund contributed by a number of our citizens. It has been compiled and edited by the Patriotic Instructor of Waldron Post and a copy sent to every member of the Post, Corps and Camp, Library Trustees, Officials of the County and Town, Trustees of the four Villages, Rockland Railroad Co., Nyack Fire Department Officials, Teachers Public School, Cemetery and Y. M. C. A. Trustees, the Clergy and others.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF

Isaac E. Pyé, C. M. Montgomery, Louis L. Robbins, Thomas L. Sanborn and Oliver H. Scott, of Waldron Post, G. A. R.; Mrs. Mary M. Halliday, Mrs. Mary Strack, Mrs. Hattie Walters, Mrs. Martha J. Scott, Mrs. Ida Coleman, Mrs. Josephine Conover, Mrs. Lizzie N. Hunt, Mrs. Mary Phillips and Mrs. Maria Smith, of Waldron Corps, W. R. C.; Ellis Scott, J. Elmer Christie, Warren Hill and Harry Minford, of Sanborn Camp, S. O. V.

BOULDER MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

VERA E. COLEMAN, Secretary.





COMPOSITE PHOTO BY H. F. DUTCHER, NYACK,

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER.

...THE ...
LINCOLN MEMORIAL
BOULDER

AN INSPIRATION TO THE LIVING
A TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD : :

DEDICATED JUNE THIRTEENTH --- FLAG DAY
nineteen hundred and eight

Published by
CHARLES M. MONTGOMERY
Patriotic Instructor Waldron Post, No. 82, Dept. of New York, G. A. R.
NYACK - ON - HUDSON

To the Boys and Girls
of the Nyacks

This little book is

Gratefully Inscribed
by the Publisher.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

The Governor's Greeting.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

ALBANY, N. Y., August 27, 1908.

I take pleasure in commending the patriotic sentiment which has animated the members of the Waldron Post and the men and women who join with them in the work of the Lincoln Memorial Boulder Committee.

There is one man who presents to the American people above all others in his many-sided greatness the type, the representative, of those qualities which distinguish American character and make possible the maintenance of our National strength. He is, par excellence, the true American, Abraham Lincoln.

His was not the early training of those who, like many of our distinguished men, had the advantages afforded by parentage, by noble traditions although in poor circumstances, with schooling and environment which would stimulate the loftiest of aspirations. He sprung from conditions which would seem to stifle ambition. He simply was a man; a man born; a great American; superior to all the disadvantages which surrounded his birth and early training.

He was a humane man, a man of emotion, which he never allowed to control his reason; a man of sentiment, of deep feeling. He was a lowly man, never asserting himself as superior to his fellows, but he could rise in the dignity of his humanity to a

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

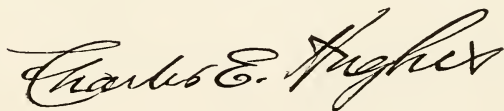
majesty which has seldom been equaled by any ruler of any people under any form of government.

We see in Lincoln patience, the reasoning faculty, humanity, the democratic sentiment, patient consideration, all combined; and we may well learn from him the lesson which at any hour of our history we should well study.

"Why," said Lincoln, "should we not have patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the American people?"

Why not, indeed? Who are the American people? They are the most intelligent people organized in any civil society on the face of this broad earth. They have abundant opportunities for education. They are keen and alert. If we can only feel as Lincoln felt and derive our political sentiments from the study of the principles of the Declaration of Independence and proceed as Lincoln did, with remorseless logic, to the consideration of the demands of every exigency, there can be no question but that each problem will be solved and that every decade of American history will witness a further advance and that the prosperity of the future will far transcend anything that we have realized in the past.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles E. Hughes". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom - and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Gettysburg, November 19, 1863.

The Lincoln Boulder.

A Tribute to Our Heroes of 1861 - '65
with an Inboration,

BY LOUIS BRADFORD COUCH, M. D.
NYACK, N. Y.

O Mighty Boulder, wrought by God's own hand,
Throughout all future ages thou shalt stand
A monument of honor to the brave
Who yielded up their lives, their all, to save
Our glorious country, and to make it free
From bondsmen's tears and lash of slavery.

Securely welded to thy rugged breast,
Through all the coming ages there shall rest
Our Lincoln's tribute to a patriot band,
The noblest ever penned by human hand.

The storms of centuries may lash and beat
Thy granite face and bronze with hail and sleet;
But futile all their fury. In a day
The loyal sun shall melt them all away.

Equal in death our gallant heroes sleep
In Southern trench, home grave, or ocean deep;
Equal in glory, fadeless as the light
The stars send down upon them through the night.
O priceless heritage for us to keep
Our heroes' fame immortal while they sleep!

O God, still guide us with Thy loving hand,
Keep and protect our glorious Fatherland.

Executive Mansion
Washington, Nov 21, 1864

To Mrs Bixby, Boston, Mass,

Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

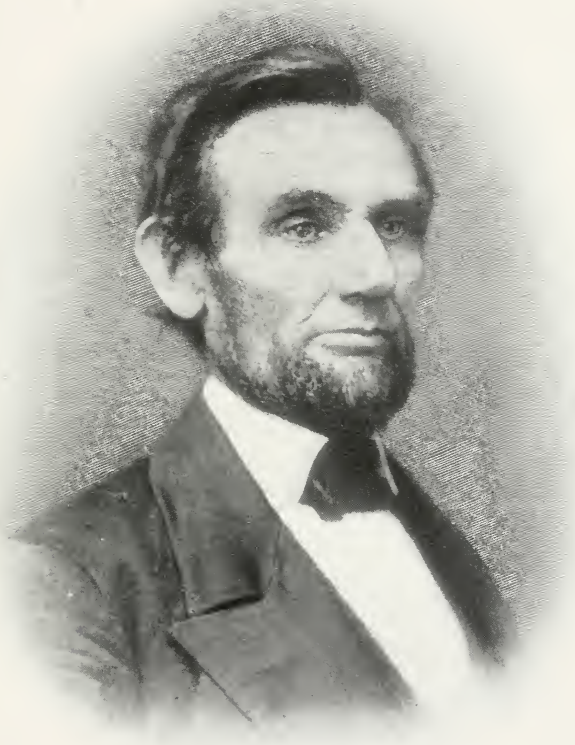
Yours very sincerely and respectfully

A. Lincoln

The Celebrated "Bixby Letter."

Facsimile of the Original Manuscript on Exhibition at Huber's Museum in New York City.

A Letter of Condolence Written by Abraham Lincoln to Mrs. Bixby, of Boston, Mass., November 21, 1864.



COURTESY OF THE FRANCIS D. TANDY COMPANY, NEW YORK

Abraham Lincoln

TAKEN FROM FIRST PHOTO WITH A BEARD, 1861

THE BOULDER.

BY E. K. RUSSELL, CHAPLAIN OF WALDRON POST.

S EVEN and forty years ago, at the call of Father Abraham, there came from all stations in life, loyal men who by their answer to the call said—"If my country needs a human sacrifice to maintain its honor take me."

Pen and voice have tried in vain to tell the full story of that dreadful struggle into the vortex of which went so many loved ones, and we see them no more. Yet they still live, not only in the hearts of those nearest and dearest to them, but they still live in the memory of appreciating townsmen and a grateful nation. As witness of this, see in most of our cities and villages throughout the land Monuments or Memorial Boulders erected in memory of their heroic dead.

Deep down in the hearts of the veterans of Nyack long has been cherished a hope that the time might soon come when its name could be added to the list of places having erected Soldiers' and Sailors' Monuments. The answer to their prayer came through an inspiration caught by Patriotic Instructor C. M. Montgomery, of Waldron Post, No. 82, G.A.R., to place a Memorial on our Library Grounds, on seeing an engraving of a Boulder placed by the New York Historical Association to mark the Revolutionary Battle Ground at Glens Falls. The sim-

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

plicity, as well as its effectiveness, convinced him that such a Monument was the proper thing for Nyack.

He accordingly interviewed Mr. A. M. Voorhis, Secretary of the Library Trustees. Finding him in favor of the proposition, the case was presented to the full Board of Library Trustees who approved the plan and granted permission to place the Boulder on the south side of the lawn in front of the building.

The matter was then brought before Waldron Post at its regular meeting, Comrade Montgomery giving a full statement of the facts in the case as it then existed, and the project was most enthusiastically received and adopted and heartily supported to its completion.

The organizations auxiliary to the Post, namely: The Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans, loyally pledged themselves to the support of the matter and did good work until the finish.

On Monday, February 10th, 1908, the Daily Press jointly made the first public announcement in full of the undertaking, each paper editorially highly commending the whole proposition, the Nyack Journal leading the list of contributors.

The children of the Villages then entered upon the task of procuring the money with which to meet the necessary expense, while the members of the Post and others sought for the Boulder, and Rockland County, at least that portion within reasonable dis-

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

tance of town, was explored on hill and in dale, to find a perfect stone, for only such an one was deemed worthy of the object. They failed on land to find such an one, and turning to the Historic Hudson, opposite the home of Mr. N. B. Cushing, the seekers saw, rearing its head above the waters, the Boulder which was deemed worthy to bear upon its breast the Tablet containing those immortal words which came from the lips of Abraham, the called of God, to lead our beloved Nation through the scourge of Civil War, and that Badge, the symbol of his army who by their loyalty to his will preserved us as a nation.

The consent of Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Cushing having been obtained to remove the Boulder, and after much strenuous labor by W. Parrott & Son, of Newburgh, it was landed on the dock foot of Main Street. Its weight was 10 tons, notwithstanding which it was placed upon a large truck, and, under the direction of Commander I. E. Pye and by the power of eighteen horses and 100 men with ropes, dragged up the hill, and deposited on the Library Grounds. Then being placed in proper position upon a bed of concrete, it was ready for the skilled hand of our townsman, Mr. C. M. Travis, who securely anchored upon the front of the Boulder a large bronze tablet bearing the inscription :

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MEMORIAL

A GIFT FROM

THE CHILDREN OF NYACK--MAY 30, 1908

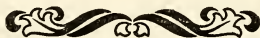
and giving in full the text of Lincoln's Gettysburg

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

Address with lettering that can be plainly read many feet distant; also an enlarged reproduction in bronze of the Grand Army of the Republic Badge.

And thus the Boulder stands to-day, and so will it ever stand, a rugged monument from nature's workshop to one of God's rugged noblemen, as well as an immortalized tribute to that Grand Army who have "spread their silent tents on Fame's eternal camping ground." It is to-day and always will remain a lesson teaching pure patriotism to this and succeeding generations.

*"For generations yet to come
This Monument shall stand,
Unchanging emblem, like our hearts,
And wrought by God's own hand."*



The G. A. R.

Not a military organization, not a political machine, but a unified, solidified federation of veterans, whose patriotism and faith moved the armies and navies of the Union, and secured to the United States a mighty future among the powers of the earth; a federation of veterans, strengthened by conflict, tried by defeats, baptized in blood, consecrated by tears and glorified by the immortal radiance of that victory that crowns the battalions of Universal Liberty.—General James B. Steedman.

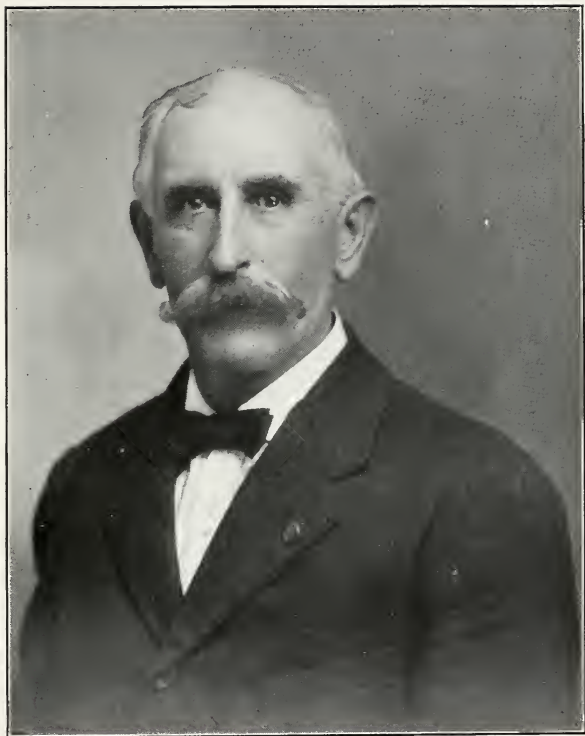


PHOTO BY HOFFER, NYACK

Isaac E. Pye

COMMANDER WALDRON POST.

The Lincoln Educational League.

NEW YORK, August 21, 1908.

The people of Nyack are to be greatly congratulated upon having the immortal Gettysburg Address of Abraham Lincoln in imperishable bronze anchored on a Boulder upon the lawn of their Public Library. Probably no better monument to Abraham Lincoln—no more appropriate Memorial to the dead he honored—no greater inspiration to the highest form of patriotism—no better lesson in the beauties of the English language could be devised.

In spite of his modest prophecy, Americans must long remember what Abraham Lincoln said, and be perpetually inspired by his eloquence and by his example to dedicate themselves to the task which even yet remains before them. His principles and his patriotism, his patience under misrepresentation, his courage and strength in the face of tremendous obstacles, are needed as an inspiration to each one of us to-day if a government of the people, by the people, for the people is long to endure.

It was the spirit of Abraham Lincoln which, more than anything else, surmounted the well-nigh overwhelming troubles of his time. If that spirit can be kept alive in the American nation, our present and future difficulties must give way before it.

It is most appropriate that the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial in Nyack should take this form. These words of Abraham Lincoln must ever prove the best epitaph of those who lost their lives in the service of their country.

Francis D. Tandy

SEC'Y.

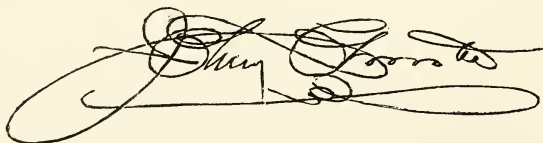
Sons of Veterans.

Our well-known and popular fellow-townsmen, Mr. J. Elmer Christie, Patriotic Instructor of Sanborn Camp, and also Division Patriotic Instructor of New York, S. O. V., in a late issue of *The Banner*, official organ of the Sons of Veterans, aptly commends the Lincoln Memorial Boulder in these words:

The patriotic enterprise, under the supervision of the G. A. R., the W. R. C. and S. O. V., at Nyack, in erecting a boulder with Lincoln's address on a bronze tablet has been consummated, and it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on Flag Day, June 13th.

The wisdom of this memorial, the peculiar appropriateness, the little cost and yet the beautiful simplicity of it, all unite to commend it to our camps throughout the State and Nation, and that they will give the idea the widest circulation and commendation, officially so if practicable, so that on the Centenary of Lincoln's birth in February next, 1909, we may see many of these Lincoln Boulders dedicated to his memory and to that of the Soldiers and Sailors who sustained in the field and on the seas the glory of his consummate statesmanship.

Yours fraternally,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to J. Elmer Christie, the Patriotic Instructor mentioned in the text. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent horizontal line at the bottom.

Both the State and National Commanders, S. O. V., in general orders, officially commend the foregoing to Camps throughout the land.

DEDICATION CEREMONIES
OF THE
LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER.

FLAG DAY, 1908.

ORIGINALLY it was intended to have the Boulder dedicated May 30—Decoration Day—but the aged veterans felt unequal to the task of observing Memorial Day and the Dedication of the Lincoln Memorial both on the same day, consequently the unveiling of the Boulder was fixed for Saturday afternoon, June 13—Flag Day falling on Sunday.

The day was ideal. The parade, preceding the ceremonies, was imposing. The sky smiled above and the air was filled with the sound of happy voices of the children, the sparkling enthusiasm of the people and the stirring music of the bands. The scene was intermingled with flying flags, the gay uniforms of the firemen, the veterans of Waldron Post, the Sons of Veterans and the bright and happy school children with waving flags, in charge of the Woman's Relief Corps. It was a pleasing and inspiring sight long to be remembered.

The parade formed at the corner of Broadway and Main Street promptly at two o'clock, in charge

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

of Matthew Evers, Jr., Chief of the Nyack Fire Department, in the following order :

Police of Nyack and South Nyack,
Glassing's Haverstraw Band,
Nyack, South Nyack and Upper Nyack Firemen,
Waldron Post, No. 82, G. A. R.,
Sanborn Camp, No. 35, Sons of Veterans,
Rockland Fife and Drum Corps,
Woman's Relief Corps,
School Children with Flags.

The procession moved up Broadway to First Avenue, up First Avenue to Franklin Street, down Franklin to Main Street, down Main to Broadway, down Broadway to Cedar Hill Avenue, passing the Library and Village Trustees in review, then counter-marching to the Library grounds.

At the close of the parade the people gathered in front of the Library building, completely filling the grounds, the street and the lawn opposite. Many ladies graced the assembly by their presence.

THE CEREMONIES.

From the speaker's stand Mr. Howard Van Buren, President of the Nyack Library Trustees, presided. The exercises opened with music by the band, "Marching Through Georgia." The President then introduced the Rev. Franklin Babbitt, rector of Grace Episcopal Church, saying: "In deference to those feelings of dependence upon a higher power,

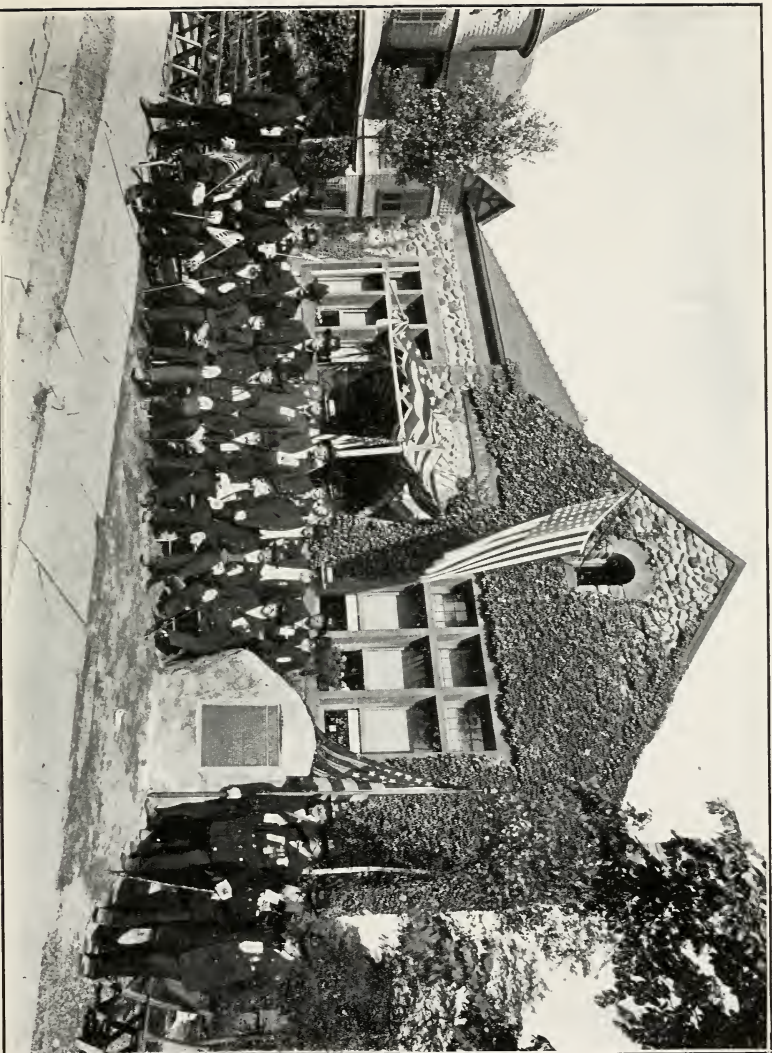


PHOTO BY H. F. DUTCHER, NYACK

LIBRARY BUILDING, WALDRON POST, G. A. R., GROUPED AROUND THE BOULDER.

FLAG DAY, 1908.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

which we know sustained President Lincoln during the dark hours of the Civil War, and which we should acknowledge to-day, the Divine blessing will be invoked by the Rev. Franklin Babbitt."

PRESENTATION.

Following the Invocation the Lincoln Memorial Boulder was then formally presented to the Library Trustees by Comrade Charles M. Montgomery in the following fitting words :

Mr. Howard Van Buren—To you, as president of the Nyack Library Trustees, I have the pleasure, the privilege and the honor, on behalf of Waldron Post, Grand Army of the Republic, of placing in your charge this simple Memorial Boulder. On its face is inscribed, in enduring bronze, Abraham Lincoln's immortal speech delivered on the battlefield of Gettysburg, in November, 1863. On its south face is a bronze insignia, emblematic of that Grand Army of the Nation of which President Lincoln was Commander-in-Chief.

This Memorial, Mr. President, comes as a free-will gift to our Village from the patriotic children of the Nyacks, aided by a generous public. It is free from debt, and we hope, sir, and we believe, that in your hands and those of your successors in office, this Memorial will be cared for and preserved for all time.

Mr. President, the Memorial is now in your charge.

UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL.

Immediately after Comrade Montgomery ceased speaking the bugle's inspiring signal resounded throughout the grounds, and in a twinkling the two

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

American flags with which the Memorial was draped fell to the lawn. The Lincoln Memorial Boulder stood revealed! This beautiful ceremony was in charge of Mrs. Mary M. Halliday, President of the Woman's Relief Corps—the following children participating: George Parbury Pollen Jewett, Upper Nyack; Giles Tasman, Nyack; Raymond Blauvelt, South Nyack; Frank Demarest, Grand View, and Maie Van Nostrand and Edna Maie Halliday, Nyack.

RESPONSE.

Simultaneously with the uncovering of the Memorial, Mr. Howard Van Buren, President of the Library Trustees, responded to the presentation in the following appropriate words:

Mr. C. M. Montgomery—In behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Nyack Library, it affords me great pleasure to accept the custody of this noble specimen of nature's handiwork.

We shall never forget the toil and devotion of the veterans of Waldron Post, and of those who so effectively and cheerfully assisted them in bringing this boulder here, thus completing, at this favored spot, nature's transportation work of ages past. We highly appreciate the commendable and graceful action of the children of Nyack, aided by the public, in making this appropriate and timely gift to our village, and we heartily concur in that praiseworthy and patriotic sentiment which has prompted it. Be assured, sir, that this boulder, once an ancient landmark, but now a unique monument, ever will be cared for and guarded as a lasting memorial and fitting repository for the

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

immortal words of President Lincoln, and for the honorable and illustrious emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Music by the band, "HAIL COLUMBIA."

In announcing the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" the President said:

On this, its Natal day, it is highly appropriate that "The Star Spangled Banner" should be sung, and I am glad to announce that the Rev. Robert J. Holmes, a citizen whose services have been often and freely conceded in the interests of our village, has kindly consented to sing the verses of this grand anthem to the national flag. It is very pleasing, too, that the chorus is to be sung by the members of our public school and their associates, whose contributions have enabled our veterans to enter upon that work which they have so happily completed to-day.

Singing, "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER."

MR. HOWARD VAN BUREN'S ADDRESS.

In presenting the Hon. Arthur S. Tompkins as the orator of the occasion, Mr. Van Buren gave the audience a gem of patriotic thought that will long be cherished by his hearers. He spoke with much feeling as follows :

We have assembled to-day to offer tribute of honor and respect to the words spoken by Abraham Lincoln on that historic and solemn occasion—the consecration of the battlefield of Gettysburg to the Federal dead. These memorable words, coming straight from his deep heart of pity and love, breathe the loftiest

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

ideals of civic virtue and patriotism. Measured by the most exacting standards, they are a model of prose composition and a marvel of compressed thought, and are justly valued as one of the world's great classics—a masterpiece, whose sublimity of thought is equaled only by the simplicity of the language.

It has been well said that they constitute a unique condensation of the true sentiment and innermost meaning of the tremendous struggle between the North and the South. On this, one of those rare occasions when the high water mark of oratory is reached, there is clearly set forth those fundamental principles which were the mainsprings of President Lincoln's policy; that our government is founded, not on the shifting sands of an association of sovereign States, but on the firm rock of a perpetual union. This policy he adhered to throughout the trying years of military conflict in the South and political intrigue in the North; and this policy, upheld and enforced by the army and navy, brought to our land that new birth of freedom which he had longed to see.

In the presence of these immortal words, we Americans cannot but feel that, as a lesson in patriotism of the highest order, there is a completeness of statement and a finality of expression, which can neither be added to, subtracted from, nor explained; and that the most effective and the most befitting tribute we can render to this mosaic of high thought and noble aspiration is the tribute, not of eloquence, but of our thoughtful and earnest contemplation. It is, therefore, most appropriate and fitting that we of this generation, now in the full enjoyment of the nation's new birth of freedom, should treasure this beautiful prose



A. L. Tompkins

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

poem, as we do to-day, by casting it in enduring bronze and binding it to the eternal rock.

But the nation has said that the last word about Lincoln can never be spoken, and it is with feelings of sincere pleasure, mingled with civic pride, that I now have the honor of presenting to you the orator of the day, our fellow townsman, Judge Tompkins, a man whose noteworthy and highly successful public life is founded, in no small degree, I believe, on his close touch with Lincoln's plain people. (Great applause.)

ORATION BY THE HON. ARTHUR S. TOMPKINS.

Judge Tompkins in stepping to the front was greeted with enthusiastic applause, and gave one of the most eloquent addresses ever listened to in Nyack. It follows in full:

Mr. Chairman, Veterans, Sons of Veterans, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This day will be memorable in the history of Nyack because it witnesses the dedication of a memorial which will stand as long as anything material shall stand—a monument that will endure as long as heaven permits the works of man to last, to speak to coming generations of our loyalty to our country and our devotion to its institutions, and our gratitude to those whose patriotism and sacrifices bequeathed to us and our posterity the rich heritage of a free and united country—a monument whose unadorned grandeur and massive solidity is a fit emblem both of the events in memory of which it is raised and the reverence and gratitude of those who have placed it here.

It is peculiarly appropriate that these dedicatory

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

exercises should be held on this day, which is observed as Flag Day—the anniversary day of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the national emblem.

There are many things in life which thrill the heart and inspire the mind of man. There is inspiration in danger and in the applause of our fellows, there is inspiration in the knowledge that our efforts and work are appreciated, there is inspiration in oratory and poetry and music and song; but there is nothing in life that so inspires and thrills the heart of the true American as the graceful and beautiful folds of that glorious emblem, the Star Spangled Banner, the flag for which Lincoln died, the flag for which these veterans sacrificed and suffered, and for which their comrades died, the flag which symbolizes the liberty and freedom and union, which Lincoln and the soldiers of '61-'65 preserved, whose bright stars and stripes kindle and awaken patriotism in the hearts of the young and inspire all men with loyalty and devotion to their country and its institutions.

Under its lead and inspiration, patriots have advanced on the field of battle to their death; under the spell of its magic power our brave soldiers and sailors have forgotten self and kindred and home for the honor, integrity and preservation of all that it represents. It has gone through many conflicts, trials and dangers; it has been stained with the blood of martyrs, but never has it been stained with shame. It has been rent into tatters by hateful hands, it has been riddled by shot and shell and blackened by smoke; it has been torn from its staff and trampled in the dust; but washed in the blood of the brave, that old, tattered, bullet-riddled, blood-stained national ensign floats over us to-day in unsullied glory,

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

with "not a stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured," revered and beloved by Americans everywhere, North and South, and respected and honored by all the world.

In the enjoyment of our manifold blessings, in our eager quest after knowledge and position, in our earnest strife for opportunity and advantage, in these days of peace and tranquillity and prosperity, we are apt to lose sight of and overlook the services and sacrifices of the men, the heroes and martyrs, whose patriotism and heroism and sufferings created the opportunities and made possible the privileges and blessings and accomplished the peace which we enjoy in such large measure. We are so likely in times of peace and prosperity to forget the hardships endured, and the patience exercised, and sacrifices made by those whose lot it was to cradle and defend our country through the struggles of its early life.

So that it is good and wholesome that we pause, now and then, to contemplate the past and reflect upon the lives and achievements of those whose names and deeds illumine the pages of our country's history.

This monument is to be a perpetual lesson in patriotism, which must be based upon a knowledge of a nation's history and development, and in this boulder we shall have established for all time:

First, a memorial of the life and achievements of the one man above all others in the history of our country most calculated to kindle and keep alive the spirit of patriotism in the hearts of the young, the grandest and noblest figure of the 19th century—Abraham Lincoln.

Second, the record of his Gettysburg Speech, one

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

of the finest specimens of modern oratory, delivered on the occasion of the dedication of the Gettysburg Battlefield as a place of burial for the Union soldiers who fell on that historic ground; and,

Third, a silent yet eloquent testimonial speaking to the present and all future generations, speaking to the youth who are to keep this Republic noble and make its future greater and speaking to every passer-by of the patriotism, heroism and martyrdom of those who, under the command of Lincoln, fought our country's battles, leading it out from the bondage of slavery, out of the danger of disunion and disruption, out from rebellion and bloodshed, into the light of liberty, unity and peace.

It is not surprising that our children responded so willingly and gladly to the cost of this testimonial. No other life appeals so strongly to the average boy and girl as the life of Abraham Lincoln. Born in abject poverty, reared in a log cabin amid the most unpropitious surroundings, with less than a year's schooling in a backwoods district school, spending his days as a young man on a poor farm until he was 21 years old, then a deck-hand on a Mississippi flat boat; carrying a surveyor's chain; the proprietor of a little country store, in which he was unsuccessful; studying law from a few old borrowed law books; thus he passed his early years, and from the lowest origin, from the smallest beginning with the greatest obstacles to overcome, with difficulties to surmount never surpassed, if equaled, in the life of any man who has achieved anything worth noting, he rose to the highest place, to the most exalted position in the gift of his countrymen. Considering his humble birth, his few advantages, his many adversities, the



PHOTO BY HOFFER, NYACK

Mary M. Halliday

PRESIDENT WALDRON CORPS

critical period in our history with which he had to deal, and his great achievements, we are justified in esteeming him as the greatest of all Americans of every age.

And we may rejoice that we have this privilege of rendering honor to his memory by keeping alive the sentiments which animated him in his great work for humanity, and fostering the principles for which he lived and died. His career teaches young men that every position of eminence and honor is open before the diligent and worthy; his life is a living inspiration to every poor, struggling boy and makes his path easier and his burdens lighter.

This monument will also perpetuate the memory of the greatest battle of the Civil War, that which marked the turning of the war tide toward the North, and the beginning of the end of that great struggle. It is the finest example of which we have any record of the daring and fearlessness and superb courage of the American soldier. It is not to encourage the military spirit that this stone is placed here, but to keep alive and foster and strengthen the spirit of patriotism, that by realizing the cost of our liberties and privileges we may the more fully appreciate their value and be the more zealous in their defense and for their protection.

So long as Bunker Hill and Lexington and Concord and Yorktown and Valley Forge are remembered, so long as Shiloh and The Wilderness and Vicksburgh and The Lookout Mountain and Gettysburg and Appomattox illumine the pages of our country's history and mark out the pathway of our country's struggles and triumphs, so long will the perpetuity of the Republic be assured.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

To these veterans, these members of the Grand Army of the Republic, who honor us and dignify this occasion by their presence, we are indebted far beyond our power to pay. They are only the remnants of many a well-fought field, a small remnant of the Grand Army that marched forth to battle from '61 to '65. They are the survivors of the bravest army that ever walked the earth or gave battle to a foe, and in the name of our great country, which they saved, in the name of the flag whose honor they preserved, in the name of that liberty and humanity for which they fought, and in the name of the 20th century, now enjoying the rich fruits of their sacrifices, we thank you and express the hope that your days may be long in the land which you saved, and that peace and happiness may be your everlasting reward.

Our gratitude to those in whose honor we have met, and in whose honor this stone and tablet are being dedicated, can best be manifested by a steady attachment to that spirit of liberty which was kindled in the hearts of the Pilgrim Fathers; by a steadfast devotion to and prompt defence of the institutions so wisely established by the fathers; by our willingness to give treasure and blood and kin and life, if necessary, for the preservation of that political and religious liberty which they established, and by our purpose, not boastingly declared, but deep down and firmly rooted in the heart of every American, that always, on land and sea, in every land and clime, the honor and integrity of the Stars and Stripes, that glorious emblem of a free people, shall be maintained and defended.

Our gratitude should be shown by obedience to and respect for the law, by the preservation and ob-

servance of all the constitutional checks, safeguards and balances upon the powers and privileges of the States and the Nation, and the three co-ordinate branches of the Federal and State governments; by insisting upon equal rights for all and special privileges for none, save those who undertake to serve the public, and then only with such restrictions and limitations and control as will emphasize the fact that they are the servants and not the masters; by the enactment and impartial enforcement of just and equal laws; by the application to the problems arising between capital and labor of the Golden Rule; by an unceasing warfare against anarchy that would destroy life and socialism that would overthrow organized government, and against every form of vice and iniquity that would undermine our institutions, destroy our Sabbath or subvert our laws; by holding fast to the truth and the traditions of the past and not allowing ourselves to be swept off our feet by the storm of radicalism which now and then passes over our country.

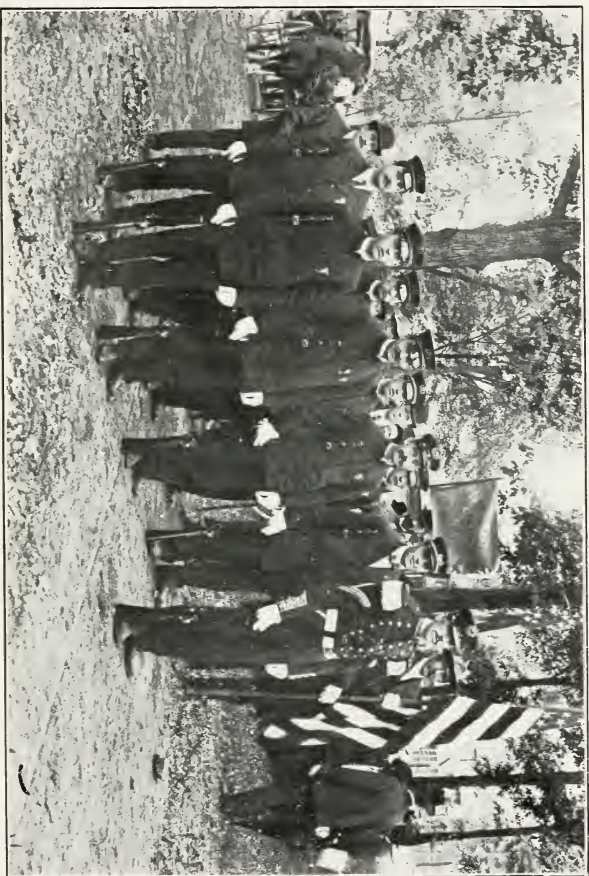
In these days of unusual social and industrial unrest and discontent, in these times of harsh criticism and inexcusable pessimism, when some men say that there is one rule of conduct, one standard of morality for the rich and another for the poor, when some men erroneously say that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor, when in many minds the false notion prevails that money is king and that wealth can command all things material; in these times it is well to hold up the life of Lincoln as the typical American, as the example for the young of the 20th century. With Lincoln the question was not how much he could get out of his country, not how

much graft there was in it for him, not what perquisites and emoluments he could help himself to; but rather how much service he could gratuitously render, how many sacrifices he could make and how much suffering he could endure for his country and his fellow-men.

Yet the character of Lincoln is not unique in that respect. Our land everywhere abounds with strong, unselfish, patriotic, charitable and honest men, men who serve their fellows honestly and conscientiously, and to whom the holding of public office is a sacred trust. Never were political ideals or professional or business standards higher than they are to-day, and never before was our country so united and harmonious, so prosperous and happy; never were our institutions so secure, and never was the outlook for the future brighter.

A striking and convincing proof may be found in the recent splendid victory for law and order by our great Governor, Charles E. Hughes, against most powerful influences and unlimited wealth, law, right, and the best sentiment have prevailed. Such a result would have been impossible twenty-five years ago. Twenty-five and more years ago it would have been impossible to have aroused sufficient public sentiment to force an unwilling legislature to enact a law of the character of the anti-race track gambling bills, nor would it have been possible to stay the force of the corrupt influences that were at work in opposition to those measures, but which in this instance was overcome by the moral sense of the State, and this great moral triumph, this splendid victory for law and order, is one of the many good signs of the times.

Now and then we are startled and alarmed by an



SANBORN CAMP, SONS OF VETERANS, DECORATION DAY, 1908.



Patriotic Instructor Sanborn Camp, S. O. V.
Also Division Patriotic Instructor of N. Y.

THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL BOULDER

outbreak here and there, sectional difference, race riots, labor troubles, political upheavals, corruption and iniquity revealed in this place or that, anarchy and socialism. These things sometimes disturb and alarm us and cause us to fear for the future of the Republic; but, believe me, these things are only temporary, they are only skin deep. They are mere abrasions upon the body politic, and as a scratch on your hand is quickly healed by the healthy blood in your veins, so these eruptions and disturbances are quickly healed by the strong current of national life which is constantly coursing through the veins of the Republic.

“Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock,
'Tis but the flapping of a sail,
And not a rent made by the gale.
In spite of rock and tempest roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea;
Our hearts, our hopes are all with thee;
Our hearts, our hopes, our joys, our tears,
Our faith, triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee, are all with thee.”

(Prolonged Applause)

CONCLUSION.

At the conclusion of Judge Tompkins' address, which was frequently received with applause in its delivery, President Van Buren arose saying: “Under the inspiration and enthusiasm so justly awakened by

this thoughtful, highly patriotic and eloquent oration we will appropriately sing the National Anthem."

Singing of "AMERICA" by the audience.

The Rev. J. Riley Johnson, D. D., Nyack's Nestor, fittingly concluded the exercises by pronouncing the Benediction.



National Monuments.

BY REV. HENRY VAN DYKE, D. D.

Count not the cost of honor to the dead!
The tribute that a mighty nation pays
To those who loved her well in former days
Means more than gratitude for glories fled;
For every noble man that she hath bred,
Immortalized by art's immortal praise,
Lives in the bronze and marble that we raise,
To lead our sons as he our fathers led.
These monuments of manhood, brave and high,
Do more than forts or battleships to keep
Our dear-bought liberty. They fortify
The heart of youth with valor wise and deep;
They build eternal bulwarks, and command
Eternal strength to guard our native land.

Courtesy of The Century Magazine.

The Nyack Library.

Nyack - on - the - Hudson.

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The Gettysburg Address of Abraham Lincoln is displayed upon the walls of Oxford University as an example to the students of how much can be said in the fewest possible English words.

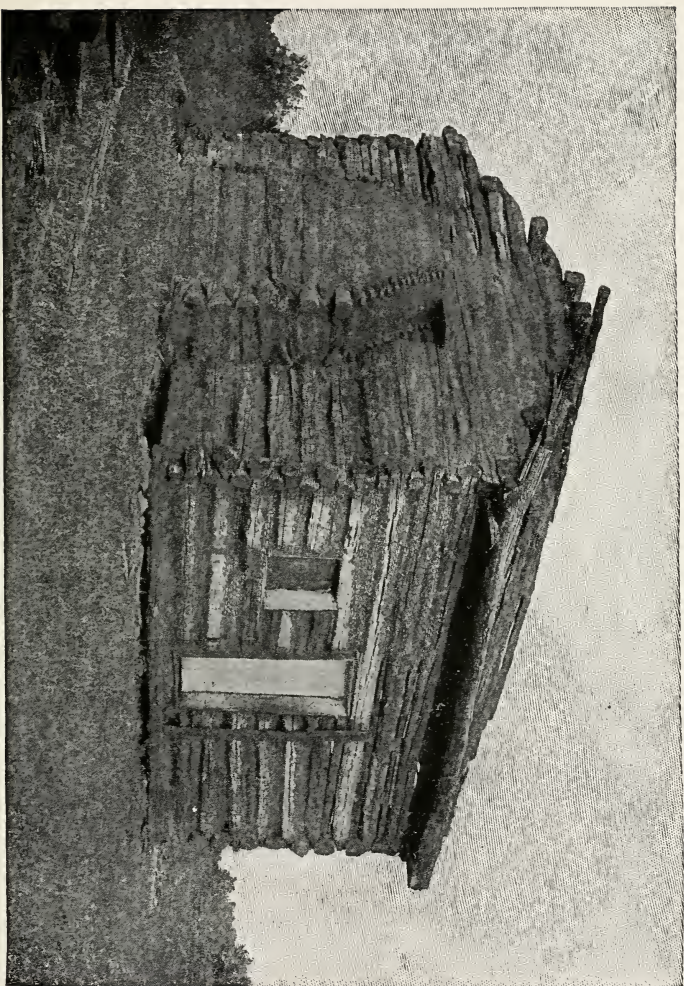
If a foreign University is compelled by its eloquence to give it such a place of honor for its rhetorical qualities alone, how much more should it be displayed in every college, in every school, in every library, in every home in America. Here it is far more eloquent than in England. These ever-living words are a constant source of inspiration to a nobler life, a truer citizenship.

Grant's Farewell Address.

Soldiers of the Armies of the United States :

By your patriotic devotion to your country in the hour of danger and alarm, your magnificent fighting, bravery and endurance, you have maintained the supremacy of the Union and the Constitution, overthrown all armed opposition to the enforcement of the laws and of the proclamations forever abolishing slavery—the cause and pretext of the rebellion—and opened the way to the rightful authorities to restore order and inaugurate peace on a permanent and enduring basis on every foot of American soil. Your marches, sieges and battles, in distance, duration, resolution and brilliancy of results, dim the lustre of the world's past military achievements, and will be the patriot's precedent in defense of liberty and right in all time to come.

In obedience to your country's call you left your homes and families and volunteered in its defense. Victory has crowned your valor, and secured the purpose of your patriotic hearts; and with the gratitude of your countrymen and the highest honors a great and free nation can accord, you will soon be permitted to return to your homes and families, conscious of having discharged the highest duty of American citizens. To achieve these glorious triumphs and secure to yourselves, your fellow-countrymen, and posterity the blessings of free institutions, tens of thousands of your gallant comrades have fallen and sealed the priceless legacy with their lives. The graves of these a grateful nation bedews with tears, honors their memories, and will ever cherish and support their stricken families.



HOUSE IN WHICH ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN.

COURTESY OF LINCOLN HISTORY SOCIETY, NEW YORK

Science Division.

New York State Educational Department.

Director's Office.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 20, 1908.

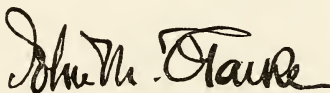
Mr. Charles M. Montgomery,

Waldron Post, G. A. R., Nyack, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

The rock specimen which you have submitted to me for examination, taken from the memorial boulder which your Post has erected, is what is commonly and commercially known as granite, not unlike that quarried at Peekskill. To the geologist the name for the rock would be dioritic gneiss, the white color being feldspar and the green mineral hornblende. It is a rock which was originally molten and has been intruded by internal forces into and through the other rocks composing the earth's crust, and so it might properly be termed a lava, inasmuch as it is of volcanic origin.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John M. Clarke". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

State Geologist.

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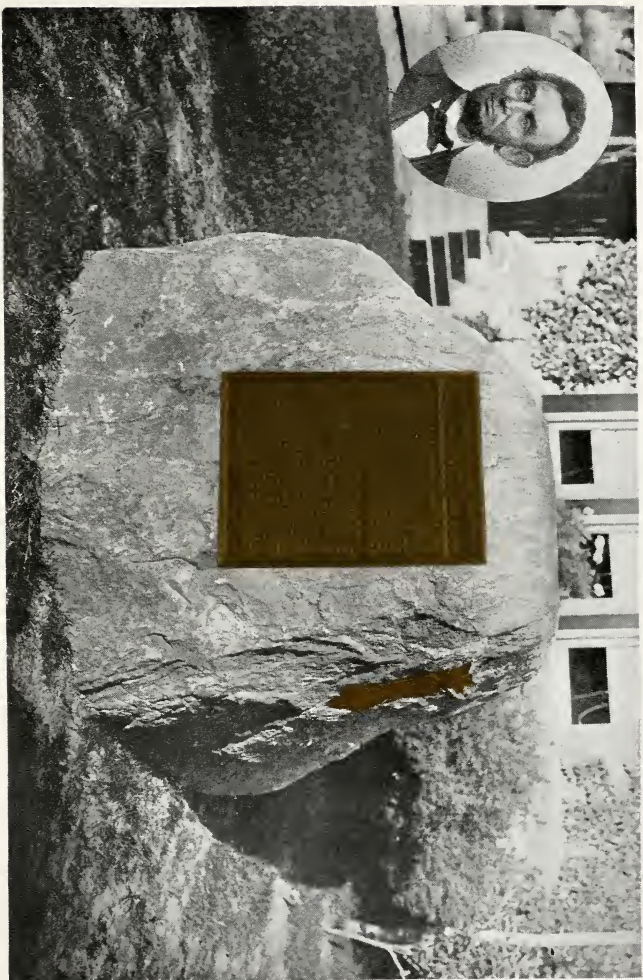
Alburtus, H. C., Private, Co. C, 13th N. Y.
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Smith, H. E., Corporal, Co. A, 54th and 127th N. Y. Vol.
Seaman, T. D., 1st Serg't, Co. B, 127th N. Y. Vol.
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Sherman, G. H., Serg't, Co. B, 10th Mass. Vol.
Smith, Daniel, Private, Co. G, 124th N. Y. Vol.

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Tuttle, W. E., 1st Lieut., 48th N. Y. Vol.
Thompson, James, Private, Co. A, 26th U. S. C. T.
Van Wagner, R. S., Private, Co. H, 80th N. Y. Inf.
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Williamson, J. H., Corporal, Co. F, 26th U. S. C. T.

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Jacob Haerle, Sept. 17, 1889, Sergt. Co. E, 15th Ger. H. A.
Wilson Defendorf, Jan. 2, 1891, Capt., Co. K, 135th N. Y. V.
C. E. Goodrich, May 31, 1892, Co. A, 5th N. Y. V.
Philip Gernand, Nov. 26, 1892, Co. C, 17th N. Y. V.
J. G. Daily, June 20, 1893, Serg't, Co. K, 6th N. Y. H. Art.
R. M. C. Hilliard, March 9, 1893, Co. E, 3d N. H. Vol.
Andrew Dorfner, Feb. 22, 1894, Co. K, 4th N. Y. H. A.
Henry Ennis, May 8, 1894, 6th N. Y. H. A.
Abner Conklin, Jan. 26, 1897, Co. B, 22d N. Y. Vol.
R. C. Walker, July 22, 1897, Co. A, 5th N. Y. H. A.
L. E. Hogan, Nov. 16, 1897, Co. F, 47th N. Y. S. M.
Charles McKie, Nov. 24, 1897, Co. H, 7th N. Y. S. M.
John Tallman, May 13, 1898, Co. A, 26th U. S. Inf.
D. F. Meisner, May 28, 1898, Co. K, 34th N. J. Vol.
A. M. Peck, March 7, 1899, Co. B, 1st U. S. Lancers.
Thomas Stewart, Aug. 16, 1899, Co. A, N. Y. C. Inf.
Benjamin Vanderveer, March 19, 1902, Co. C, 91st Penn. V.
J. H. Christie, Aug. 6, 1902, Co. G, 17th N. Y. Vol.
W. E. Sutton, Dec. 28, 1902, Co. A, 4th N. Y. H. A.
Jas. Nicholson, 1904, Co. I, 38th Mass Vol.
L. Van Riper, Oct. 7, 1904, Co. B, 137th N. Y. Vol.
W. Kneiss, March 9, 1904, Co. E, 4th U. S. A.
G. F. Morse, May 25, 1905, Co. D, 91st N. Y. Vol.
Abram Blauvelt, Oct. 23, 1906, Co. G, 22d N. Y. Vol.
A. S. Smith, Feb. 20, 1908, Capt., Co. K, 20th N. Y. S. M.
J. H. Goetschius, March 3, 1908, Co. I, 17th N. Y. S. M.
T. Thompson, April 24th, 1908, Co. A, 26th, U. S. Inf.
C. A. Robinson, July 15, 1908, Co. H, 120th N. Y. Vol.



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POST CARD VIEW



PHOTO BY HOFFER, NYACK

Fraternally yours,
C. M. Montgomery.

The Committee most cordially thank Governor Charles E. Hughes for his commendatory and patriotic introductory sketch, also our townsman, Louis B. Couch, M. D., for his appropriate and highly patriotic poem on page 7.

Thanks are also tendered The Lincoln Educational League, Francis D. Tandy Company, Lincoln History Society, The Century Magazine, Mr. W. R. Caldwell, of McClure's Magazine, and Mr. G. B. Mitchell, of The Chemical Engraving Co., all of New York City; and the Rev. Henry Van Dyke, D. D., of Princeton, N. J., for courtesies extended.

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